



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20554**

**News Media Information 202 / 418-0500**  
**Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>**  
**TTY: 1-888-835-5322**

---

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

---

For Immediate Release:  
September 16, 2003

News Media Contact:  
Rosemary Kimball at (202) 418-0511  
E-mail: [rosemary.kimball@fcc.gov](mailto:rosemary.kimball@fcc.gov).

## COMMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN TRIBAL MEETINGS AS PART OF INDIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVES PROGRAM

*Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau to Participate in Meetings with Hopi Tribe, Navajo  
Nation, and Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians;  
K. Dane Snowden to Address ATNI General Session*

Washington, DC – In the next two weeks, the FCC's Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, as part of its Indian Telecommunications Initiatives (ITI) program, will be meeting with leaders of the Hopi Tribe and the Navajo Nation in Arizona, and attending 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians in Pendleton, OR.

On September 16 CGB Bureau Chief K. Dane Snowden and members of his senior staff will meet with Hopi Tribal leaders to discuss the current telecommunications network and services on the Hopi Reservation; the effect that cell towers have on migratory birds; the visions, goals and plans for Hopi telecommunications; and what the FCC can do to help achieve these goals.

On September 17 Snowden and the staff will tour the Navajo Nation tribal lands; meet with the Navajo Nation Government Service Committee and Navajo Nation Education Department. Discussions with the Education Department will include Head Start telecom planning. The following day they will meet with the Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission, Government Divisions and Programs Committee, and Natural Resource Committee. Among the areas that will be discussed are interactive government-to-government consultation on federal telecom regulatory matters; discussions of the FCC's ITI and the Navajo Nation's telecommunications regulatory priorities and how different technologies, federal and tribal policies and regulations and federal government programs affect and benefit communities and consumers in Indian Country.

The following week, on September 22 and 23, they attend the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) in Pendleton, OR.

Established in 1953 by Tribal leaders, ATNI is a non-profit organization that represents 54 tribes from primarily Oregon, Washington, Idaho, with additional member Tribes in Alaska, Montana, Nevada, and Northern California.

CGB staff will attend a session of the Telecommunications Subcommittee and Dane Snowden will address the General Assembly. In his remarks, he will give an overview of the FCC and explain how the public can participate in FCC processes. He will give an update on the FCC's ITI and other FCC initiatives that are of particular interest to Indians.

The FCC's ITI is comprehensive program that seeks to promote understanding, cooperation and trust among American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and tribal organizations; the FCC and other governmental agencies; and the telecommunications industry. The ITI program is designed to build partnerships to target specific concerns, identify potential solutions, and bring affordable, quality telecommunications services to Indian Country. Specifically, ITI seeks to increase the telephone penetration rate among tribal communities; facilitate the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure in Indian Country necessary to provide telecommunications services; and inform tribes and tribal consumers about financial support available through federal government programs, including Universal Service Fund programs.

For information on this and other topics of interest to tribes, visit the FCC's Tribal Initiatives Web site at [www.fcc.gov/indians](http://www.fcc.gov/indians).

For information on this and other topics of interest to consumers, visit our Web site at [www.fcc.gov/cgb](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb)

To receive information on this and other FCC consumer topics through the Commission's electronic subscriber service, click on [www.fcc.gov/cgb/emailservice.html](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/emailservice.html).